



State of California
The Resources Agency
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Sunflower Fuel Break		
PROJECT LOCATION	Approximately 35 air miles west of Red Bluff along County Road 22 (Colyear Springs) and a seasonal road located on private land. Project work will occur within Sections 5 & 6 T25N-R7W / Portions of Sections 30, 31 and 32 T26N R7W MDBM.	COUNTY	Tehama
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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ADDRESS	604 Antelope Blvd. Red Bluff, CA 96080		

This fire protection and fuels management project entails the development of a 300 wide, 3.5 mile long (127 acres) shaded fuel break along Tehama County Road 22 (Colyear Springs Road) and a seasonal road located on private land within Western Tehama County. A combination of hand thinning/piling and burning piles or chipping of vegetative debris will be conducted utilizing Cal Fire Conservation Camp crews using hand tools and chain saws. In addition to cutting brush, some small stands of conifers and oaks will be thinned by removing those individuals under 10" dbh. A majority of oaks in all size classes will be retained. A portion of the overall project area will involve widening and enhancing already in place fuel breaks that have been developed independently by local landowners.

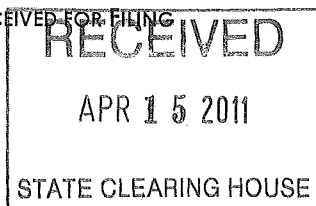
EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (e) Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

Public Resources Code, Division 13, Chapter 6, Article 19, Section 15304 allows minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation, provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species, or cause significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. Minimal ground disturbance is expected as all work will be done utilizing hand crews. No heavy equipment will be used on the project. Any watercourses within the project's impact area will be avoided and protected from impacts. A current NDDB search was conducted. The project as proposed will not have a negative impact upon any listed species of plant or animal with potential to be found on the project area. A current Archaeological records check was obtained and the project area was surveyed by individuals that have completed the Cal Fire Archeological training. Reports provided by these individuals have been accepted after review by Cal Fire archeological personnel. No sites were identified. Native American Inquiry letters were sent to Tribal Members on the current contact list. This project as proposed will not have a significant impact on the environment. Field review by Cal Fire staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department's findings are that no significant environmental impacts would occur as a result of this project. Documentation on the environmental review completed by Cal Fire is kept on file at Cal Fire's Tehama-Glenn Unit Headquarters.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



William E. Snyder, Deputy Director 4/14/11 Date